

## NEW NORTH AMERICAN SPECIES OF RHYNCHITES (COLEOPTERA).

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### *Rhynchites quadripennis* n. sp.

Form stout, the elytra nearly square; above shining green with bronze or golden reflections; beneath black, feebly greenish; beak, legs and antennae black; pubescence black, erect.

Beak and head strongly punctate and channeled, the former subequal in length to the head and thorax, the head narrow, subconical, a deep furrow between the eyes, the latter flatly convex and not prominent, separated on the front by about two-thirds their longest diameter.

Prothorax as wide as long, a little widened posteriorly, a feeble apical constriction, sides moderately arcuate; disk moderately closely punctate and with an abbreviated median impressed line.

Elytra broad, subquadrate, twice as wide and slightly more than twice as long as the prothorax; striae punctures coarse, intervals each with a single series of smaller but distinct punctures. Length (exclusive of beak) 3-3.5 mm.; width 1.75-2 mm.

Texas. Described from two examples, probably males, sent me many years ago as *hirtus*. If my memory serves me they were collected by Rauterberg and probably near New Braunfels.

In general appearance this species is most like *eximius* and *hirtus*. It agrees nearly with the former in color but differs decisively by the very long inflexed tooth of the tarsal claws. *Hirtus* has similarly toothed claws but the general form is more elongate, the color deep blue, the eyes more distant, the head without the deep interocular channel. In *quadripennis* the elytra are only about 1/10 longer than wide; in *eximius* the length is about 1/8, while in *hirtus* it is 2/5 to 1/2 greater than the width.

### *Rhynchites delectus* n. sp.

Small, rather stout, conspicuously widened posteriorly; viridi- or cupreoaeaneous, shining, pubescence fine, grayish, semirecumbent.

Beak 1/4 to 1/3 longer than the prothorax in the male, nearly as long as the elytra as a rule in the female; aeneous at base, piceous and often purpurescent beyond the antennal insertion; flattened and finely strigate between the antennal

fossae, more coarsely longitudinally rugulose in apical two-thirds. Head coarsely closely punctate without well defined median channel or fovea between the eyes, the latter separated by their own vertical diameter or slightly less.

Prothorax slightly longer than wide (as wide as long in some females), sides evenly arcuate, base and apex subequal; punctures coarse, deep and densely placed, the narrow shining intervals devoid of finer punctules.

Elytra twice as long as the thorax, distinctly inflated posteriorly, where they are nearly twice as wide as the latter; strial punctures rather coarse, intervals wider than the striae, each with a series of fine punctures. Length 1.85–2.5 mm.; width 1.1–1.35 mm.

Southern California: Pomona, Pasadena, Ojai Valley, Feb.–April. The type is a male from the first-named locality and bears date Feb. 22.

This little species is most nearly allied to *aureus*, which occurs also in the same region. *Aureus* is a rather larger and narrower species, the eyes much more distant, the prothorax with numerous fine interstitial punctures, the legs pale red.

*Rhynchites aureus* var. **levirostris** n. var.

Agrees with *aureus* in form, size, pubescence, eyes and dual punctuation of the thorax, but differs in being of a deep blue color with dark rufous legs, the beak polished and comparatively smooth, there being only a few relatively fine punctures and no longitudinal furrows or strigosity. Length 2.5 mm.; width 1.25 mm.

A single male taken by the writer in the San Bernardino Mts., California, July 14, 1892. With more material this form may prove to be specifically distinct.

***Rhynchites insularis*** n. sp.

Nearly related to *aureus* but apparently distinct by the following characters:

The form is a little more elongate, strikingly so in the male type; the beak is very much shorter sex for sex, being in the male only as long and in the female but little longer than the thorax; the eyes in the male are notably more convex and prominent, the prothorax without fine interstitial punctuation; antennae pale rufous with black club; strial punctures of the elytra very coarse, the intervals almost everywhere narrower than the striae. In *aureus* the fine interstitial punctures of the prothorax are a conspicuous feature

of the sculpture, the antennae are dark metallic and the elytral interspaces are distinctly wider than the striae. Length (male type) 2.35 mm.; width 1 mm.

Described from a single pair, the male taken by myself on Santa Catalina Island, California, July 11, 1894. The female is from San Clemente Island and differs from the male only in the slightly longer beak, smaller eyes and somewhat less slender form. As in the average *aureus* they are both metallic bronze with pale legs.

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**A Note on the Habits of *Hylemyia trivittata* Stein**—During September specimens of an anthomyid fly collected at Elba, N. Y., were forwarded to me for identification by Dr. Hugh Glasgow. They proved to be *Hylemyia trivittata* Stein. These flies were reported by Mr. Felix to be laying their eggs on the immature heads of wild lettuce in which the maggots fed on hatching. The plants recorded by Mr. Felix as infested were *Lactuca canadensis*, *L. spicata*, *L. scariola*, and *L. scariola* var. *integrata*. In the latter species 50 per cent of the seed heads was destroyed by what is believed to be injury by the maggot. Such information may be viewed with mingled feelings in the possibility it possesses for good or for evil for many of us. All power to the fly if it can help to reduce such common weeds around our gardens, but it will be a sad day when it is found that the seed heads of cultivated lettuce are also attacked. The fly is recorded by Stein as occurring in Washington State, and it is a common species in Eastern North America.—H. C. HUCKETT, Riverhead, N. Y.

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***Cryptocephalus Tinctus* Lec.**—My second specimen of this species turned up at Acton, Mass., on Sept. 15, 1929. It was taken by sweeping and the most conspicuous plants were low clusters of willow and oak. One specimen was taken in Sherborn, Mass., on Sept. 28, 1913, by sweeping bushes.—C. A. FROST, Framingham, Mass.